

**IN THE CLAIMS**

Please amend the claims as follows:

1-31. (Canceled)

32.-33. (Canceled)

34. (Previously Presented) A method for verifying a user and a user computer comprising:  
receiving at a first mini-server at least one first mini-server message from the user  
computer, the at least one first mini-server message including a first computer fingerprint file;  
comparing the first computer fingerprint file against a second computer fingerprint file to  
verify the user computer, the second computer fingerprint file accessible by the first mini-server;  
receiving at a second mini-server at least one second mini-server message from the user  
computer, the at least one second mini-server message including a first identification for the  
user; and  
comparing the first identification for the user against a second identification for the user  
to verify the user, the second identification for the user accessible by the second mini-server; and  
after the comparing of the first identification for the user against the second identification  
for the user to verify the user, generating a third mini-server message at the second mini-server  
based upon the results of the comparison.

35. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 34, further comprising:  
sending the first mini-server message to a vendor computer; and  
sending the second mini-server message to the vendor computer.

36. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 35 further comprising:  
authorizing an action by the vendor computer only if both the first mini-server message  
contains information indicating the user computer was verified and the second mini-server  
message contains information indicating the user was verified.

37-39. (Canceled)

40. (Currently Amended) A vendor computer comprising:  
a first input unit to communicate with a first server and to receive a first server message containing information indicating if a user computer was verified;  
a second input unit to communicate with a second server to receive a second server message containing information indicating if a user was verified;  
a processor to receive the first server message from the first input unit and the second server message from the second input unit and to authorize an action only if both the first server message contains information indicating the user computer was verified and the second server message contains information indicating the user was verified, wherein the first server and the second server are mini-servers, and wherein the first server message and the second server message are mini-server messages.

41.- 42. (Canceled)

43. (New) The method of claim 34, wherein the first mini-server and the second mini-server are associated with a clearinghouse computer.

44. (New) The method of claim 34, wherein the first mini-server is associated with a first clearinghouse computer and the second mini-server is associated with a second clearinghouse computer.